

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Compositions and methods are provided that relate to the unexpected specific association of (i) the TGF-beta binding protein sclerostin with the BMP antagonist protein chordin to form a complex, and of (ii) the TGF-beta binding protein sclerostin with the BMP antagonist protein noggin to form a complex, either of which complex is incapable of binding to a TGF-beta superfamily member such as a BMP. The invention provides isolated complexes for use in screening assays to identify agents that modulate bone mineralization, and offers other related advantages.